I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH REQUEST FOR CONTINUED **EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R.** 1.114

PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-011500US

Client Ref. No.: 349901489US1

TOWNSEND and **FOWNSEND and CREW LLP**

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re application of:

Kunihiko Miyazaki et al.

Application No.: 09/693,713

Filed: October 19, 2000

For: DIGITAL SIGNING METHOD

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 7398

Examiner:

Brandon S. Hoffman

Technology Center/Art Unit: 2136

AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED

EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.114

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Amendment is with submission of a Request for Continued Examination [RCE] under 37 C.F.R. 1.114 for the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.